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# HACKER'S CREEK JOURNAL

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Hacker's Creek Pioneer Descendants  
A Historical & Genealogical Society  
of Central West Virginia  
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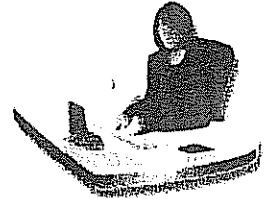
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## From the Desk

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## of the Director

Happy New Year to everyone! As 2010 begins, it is a time to reflect on our accomplishments during the past year and to set our goals for the new one. Our major accomplishment during the past year was the siding and insulating of our building. We are very proud of the results and hope that many of you will be able to visit us this year and see how nice it looks.

This year we hope to complete some more projects. We have just been notified that we have been approved to receive a Community Partnership Grant which is awarded by our state Legislature. This grant is to be in the amount of \$3,000.00 and will be used to complete a drainage system around our building and the building of a new handicapped access to our back door.

We also are the recipients of a grant from the Stonewall Jackson Heritage Arts and Crafts Jubilee Board. When the Board determined that they could no longer continue the Jubilee and voted to dissolve the organization, their charter required that all assets be sold and the money was to be given to a non-profit organization holding similar goals to the Jubilee regarding the preservation of our heritage. We are proud to report that Hacker's Creek Pioneer Descendants was chosen as that organization. As a result of an auction of the Jubilee equipment, a \$20,000.00 grant was awarded to us, with the stipulation that it be used for our new addition to the building. When the addition is completed, we are to become the repository for the display of the "Jubilee Collection". This is a wonderful collection of some beautiful examples of heritage arts and crafts.

We also are waiting to hear the results of two additional grants for which we have applied. The Museum Assessment Program (MAP) and Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) grants provide for the assessment of our collections, our conservation needs and space needs, with recommendations on how to achieve these goals. Completion of these programs is a prerequisite to making any applications for grants for the "bricks & mortar" to complete our goal of a new addition to our current building.

We are also continuing our work to publish several new books this year including our second volume of the Central West Virginia Veterans Book.

With all of these things on the horizon, it is definitely an exciting time to be a part of our organization. We will keep everyone updated as we progress with these activities during the year.

*Betty Ann*

# DESCENDANTS OF HUMPHREY ARNOLD

=====

Don Norman

NOTE: Two men named Humphrey **ARNOLD** have lived in central WV and both have left descendants. They may be related, but there is no proof at this writing. Both reportedly married a Harriet Ann **SMITH**. This is probably an error.

## 1.HUMPHREY ARNOLD

Humphrey **ARNOLD** was born about 1732. He married Harriet Ann **SMITH**. Harriet was born about 1734. "The History of West Virginia" states that the **ARNOLD** family left Chester County PA about 1765, with the parents and Isaac going to Harrison County VA and sons Jonathan, Andrew and Jesse going to Greene County PA. The family was enumerated in the 1840 census of Lewis County VA (WV).

Children of Humphrey and Harriet Ann (**SMITH**) **ARNOLD**.

2. (1). Jonathan                      b.     1752              m. Rachael **SCOTT**.
3. (2). Andrew.
4. (3). Jesse.

## 2.JONATHAN ARNOLD     1.HUMPHREY ARNOLD

Jonathan **ARNOLD**, a son of Humphrey and Harriet Ann (**SMITH**) **ARNOLD**, was born in Chester County PA in 1752. He married Rachael **SCOTT**. About 1765, the family moved to Fayette County PA. Jonathan obtained a land warrant in Fayette County July 28, 1785 and the tract was surveyed December 24, 1785.

Jonathan's will is dated July 25, 1786 in "Luzere Township, Fayette County in the State of Pennsylvania." and is found in Fayette County Wills Book 1, pages 145 and 146. The will was probated June 24, 1799.

Children of Jonathan and Rachael (**SCOTT**) **ARNOLD**.

- 9.WILLIAM ARNOLD      2.JONATHAN ARNOLD      1.HUMPHREY  
ARNOLD

Children of William and Hulda Ursula (KNOTTS) ARNOLD.

- 14.JONATHAN ARNOLD 9.WILLIAM ARNOLD 2.JONATHAN  
ARNOLD

## 1.HUMPHREY ARNOLD

Jonathan **ARNOLD**, a son of William and Hulda Ursula (**KNOTTS**) **ARNOLD**, was born in Greene County PA March 27, 1802 and died in Randolph County WV July 20, 1883. He moved from Greene County to Beverly, Randolph County VA (WV) in 1822. He first married Thursa **BUTCHER**, who died about a year after their marriage. He married Phoebe Ann Collett in 1841. Phoebe died after a few months. In 1844, Jonathan married Laura Ann **JACKSON**. Laura was a daughter of Jonathan and Julia (**NEIL**) **JACKSON** of Harrison County VA (WV).

Children of Jonathan and Laura Ann (**JACKSON**) **ARNOLD**.

- 22. (1). Thomas Jackson      b.Nov 3 1845    m.Eugenia **HILL** Jun 1 1876
- 23. (2). Anna Grace
- 24. (3). Stark W.

22.THOMAS JACKSON **ARNOLD**    14.JONATHAN **ARNOLD**  
9.WILLIAM **ARNOLD** 2.JONATHAN **ARNOLD**    1.HUMPHREY **ARNOLD**

Thomas Jackson **ARNOLD**, a son of Jonathan and Laura Ann (**JACKSON**) **ARNOLD**, was born in Randolph County VA (WV) November 3, 1845. When Thomas was 13, he was placed in school at Lexington, Va and made his home with his uncle, Major Thomas Jonathan **JACKSON**, who is better known as "Stonewall" **JACKSON**. He graduated from Washington and Lee University and began the practice of law in Randolph County in 1868. On June 1, 1876, Thomas married Eugenia **HILL**, a daughter of Confederate General Daniel H. **HILL**.

Children of Thomas and Eugenia (**HILL**) **ARNOLD**.

- 25. (1). Isabel
- 26. (2). Daniel Harvey Hill    b.Jan 18 1879      m.Mary Ann **DENHAM**
- 27. (3). Thomas Jackson Jr.
- 28. (4). Eugene H.

Continued on page 26



# **Some Pages from the Story of Lewis County in the World War**

**As told by Lawrence PROUDFOOT to Roy Bird COOK**

**(Book also contains notes and pictures of William A. COOK, R. B.'s brother.)**

**Continued from Iss. 3**

## **Chapter 6**

### **The Journey Across the Sea.**

“there’s a long, long trail a-winding,  
Into the land of my dreams.  
Where the nightingales are singing,  
And a white moon beams;  
There’s a long, long night of waiting  
Until my dreams come true.  
Till the day when I’ll be going down  
That long, long trail with you.”

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1918, we embarked on the *Acquitania*, a British vessel, one of the fastest and largest on the seas. To us it was beyond description. Just imagine a boat half as long as the main building of the Weston State Hospital, and as high as the tower, and a vague idea of the size is given. The bow of the vessel carried four six-inch guns, and the stern two six-inch guns. The inside was one vast hotel, machine shop, and small town in one. On this, on the morning of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, we started to France – a tug towed us out of the harbor and headed us to sea. As we started Red Cross girls sang “Good-bye, Good-luck, God Bless You.”

The first two days found six U.S. submarine chasers and dirigible balloons in sight at all times, dodging around like giant insects. In this time we had explored the ship, attempted vainly to find our way to mess and back without a compass and chart. We walked up and down stairs only to meet our buddies and find we were on the wrong floor. Then came sea sickness. “Doc” Cook, safely enshrouded on the covering of a life boat, laughed at his brethren in misery in the scuttle way below – Storms came up to pester us, giant waves swept the decks, and we seemed to be a tub rolling

on hills higher than any in Lewis. Then came influenza and death, to add further trouble. Indeed so many died on our vessel that the weights used for burial at sea were exhausted and substitutes had to be used. A pitiful ending it seemed to us. The hospital was on the third deck from the main floor. The bodies of the dead were enshrouded in a sack, weighted and dropped into a canvas "shook" which extended almost to the water. In this way no one could see the bodies of our departed comrades lowered at night by the hospital force into the keeping of the deep.

Corporal Andrews, of Clarksburg, was among the stricken ones - one of the most popular men in the company. About three days from shore he became sick, and some of the boys teased him about it. That evening he answered sick call. We were unable to get any information about him from the hospital force, and he died as we reached Southampton.

A close lookout was kept at all times and we saw all sorts of mysterious objects in the ocean, mostly harmless, of course. As Edward C. LUKENS recorded, one man would have reported a submarine had he not been so excited he forgot it, when a whale popped up suddenly about one hundred yards away. "My Gawd," he exclaimed afterwards, "I never seen such a big fish." And to our men, many who had seen nothing more than a pike or bass jump for a fly in the old Elk, or the West Fork, this can be believed. Even schools of porpoise appeared large to us, let alone sharks, and other species that followed in our wake.

But objects were not always as harmless as fish.

After the close of a fearful storm at sea - and no words can tell what I like - an object was sighted by a gunner. We made ready for a submarine, but it turned out to be a floating mine which might have headed off this story. After steering clear for some distance, one of the six inch guns was trained upon the dangerous object. On the fourth day out we sighted a boat. We signaled but they did not answer. Officers were sure it was a German boat, but under a full head of steam we soon left it far astern. Many sailing boats came into our range of vision and reminded us of small row boats at a distance. The inside of our boat was all covered with a heavy white cloth to the men from scarring metal work in stairways and dining halls. The officers dining room on the balcony was curtained off but the curtains soon reminded one of the front screen in the Camden Play "House" back home - it had so many holes in it. No lights were allowed. Guards were stationed to enforce these rules, but some of the boys said they were not needed. "Who wanted to look at the ocean anyway, and no lights were used to eat English marmalade

three times a day and then some.' Right Honorable James MULHERAN, of Clarksburg, looked after the music, especially HIS rendering of "My Wild Irish Rose" and vowed that he would kiss the "Blarney Stone" before he got back. He did not, however, but what else he said is not set down on Army records. Lieutenant Devereaux thought little of such light "chaff!" In fact he became so seasick he begged to have the boat stopped and "I'll swim the rest of the way."

On the morning of the sixth day we entered the real war zone, and the British sent out six submarine chasers. We had been instructed that in case our boat was hit by a torpedo submarine in any way to put out all lights instantly. Our company was down in the F deck, just over the engine room. As we were swinging out of bunks and hammocks on the morning of the eighth day, (October 9th) a terrific noise was heard. We experience it out at once, but as time passed and nothing happened we sent out a "scout" to see what was wrong. It turned out that as a sub-chaser zig-zagged back and forth in front of us our vessel hit it amidships, severing the stricken vessel in twain. The result was that nineteen men were killed or drowned, and several injured.

Our destination was said to be Liverpool, but we now steered towards Southampton. Signals were sent out and more sub-chaser, one dirigible airship, and several aero planes appeared. And sure it is, the sight of Old England looked good to us. We were soon passing through an inlet between the mainland and the Isle of Wight.

Landing at Southampton we marched through part of the city, and about three miles out to an English Camp. We found here a camp composed of tents with wooden floors, which to us land lubbers, sick, tired, and worn-out, was a real place of rest. Our men who were sick were sent to hospitals, which were in camps similar to this. But with the flu epidemic at its height, the conditions were bad indeed. Men of all nations and with all sorts of ailments were packed side by side on the floors, while distracted nurses and doctors did all they could in the way of relief. It so happened that I was on the list to go, but escaped, and am glad it turned out the way it did. We had little chance here to see much of England. The men at first did not seem to understand us, or we them, but gradually a different feeling took place. About us were soldiers of all nations, some sick and some well. The afternoon of October 10th found us leaving camp for the wharf, where we were to embark on a continuation of our journey. Men who were sick, and this included me, rode on trucks, down through the heart of the city. To our

great interest everything assed?? us on the left. Being used to Weston's streets, we expected accidents galore, but none came, and our journey was over before we realized it.

The company to which were attached, and the remnants of our old "pals" met at the wharf. Let in the evening we boarded a boat. As soon as darkness came over the English Channel we started across. Many a time we had read of this stretch of water, and heard it cussed and discussed. We did both, that is, those of us well enough to cuss or discuss. A choppy sea, congested conditions, and the warm air on the boat knocked most of us out. But early in the morning on the 11th we landed at Le Havre, France, a city located at the mouth of the Seine, with a background of hills defended by fortifications.

To be continued.



## BENJAMIN F. POINSETT

We have just learned with great sadness of the passing of Benjamin **POINSETT**. Ben and his wife Doris Post **POINSETT** were members for many years and I am sure were known to many of you. I am sending his obituary as it appeared in The Inter-mountain, Elkins, WV, Thursday,

Nov. 19, 2009:

Benjamin **POINSETT** - Benjamin Franklin **POINSETT**, 78, of Bethesda, MD, died Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2009, in Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C.

He was born June 21, 1931, at Huntington, N.Y., a son of the late Herbert Welsh Evans and Mabel Mary Christena Moset **POINSETT**.

On Aug. 23, 1958, he married Doris Jean **POST**, who preceded him in death on Sept. 11, 2005.

He is survived by his partner, Goldie **PAVAY** of Bethesda, MD., a sister, June **BLUM**; and many nieces and nephews. Ben was a brother-in-law of Bob and Peggy **POST** of Buckhannon.

Mr. **POINSETT** was an electrical engineer and served with the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

Friends were at Poling-St.Clair Funeral Home. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. at Heavner Cemetery in Buckhannon. Frank B. Bartlett Post 7, American Legion, Buckhannon Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3663 and Chapters 5 and 36 Disabled American Veterans will conduct military honors at the graveside.

# **SWISHER Family Gathering**

**August 6 - 15, 2010**

**Jane Lew , West Virginia**

A once in a lifetime gathering of **SWISHER** family descendents  
of the great Ancestors born in the 1740's and 1750's

To celebrate the **SWISHER** clan and learn about a wide  
network of descendents and see the place where our  
**SWISHER** Ancestors lived from 1780's to Today  
Visit the graveyard and farm of the  
3<sup>rd</sup> Great Grandparents of Francis Louise **SWISHER**

Jennings Descendents Reunion  
Family reunion  
Banquet  
Game and Picnics,  
Golf and Boating and Fishing  
At Premier West Virginia State Parks

Visit historical Sites  
Old Forts  
Famous WV Glass Factories

Boarding facilities at  
The Wilderness Inn  
Stonewall **JACKSON** Lake Resort  
(book early for Camping Cabins, RV Sites Lodges etc)  
**JACKSON's** Mill WVU Conference Grounds  
Bed and Breakfasts

**Please indicate your interest early to help facilitate  
planning**

**to  
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Sun City CA 92585-9707**

**[pPETTIT@telis.net](mailto:pPETTIT@telis.net)**

# HOW MY ENGLISH ANCESTOR BECAME A GERMAN

By Bette Butcher Topp

My father, Hobart S. BUTCHER (1898-1989) always said – "I am descended from early English settlers who came into the Valley of Virginia". Whenever I questioned him, he firmly said that was the case. But as I looked at the children's names of his 4<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, I knew they were probably not English.

I knew they had to be German, so I kept telling my freckled, fair-skinned, red-head father, who looked Scotch-Irish, what I thought of that tradition. But it was hard to shake the story with which he had been raised. Dad had been basically raised by his father's parents as his mother had died when he was four and his father when he was ten. Those grandparents were John Webster BUTCHER and Eliza GLAZE of Spencer, Roane County, West Virginia.

I took my first basic genealogy class in 1974 and went on to take several years of special classes that I hoped would help me. I kept finding lots of English families with the name of BUTCHER, arriving early in New Jersey, but after researching them, I found them all to be Quakers and could not connect them in any way.

I used to publish a surname booklet series called "BUTCHER BLOCK" which involved the surname of BUTCHER "anywhere, anytime, anyplace." So I felt I had an insight of just where most of the BUTCHERS had originated.

Finally after volume #7 of this 20 vol. series, two of my cousins took what information we had all collected and decided to find out just who were our immigrant ancestors.

Lo and Behold – IMAGINE! Those cousins, Jeff CARR and David ARMSTRONG, proved the BUTCHER's were indeed German. The name of METZGER means a BUTCHER as in an occupation in Germany. Thus they had started changing their name from METZGER to BUTCHER when they settled originally in Frederick County, Maryland. Even in those early 1700's many times our ancestors ran into prejudiced feelings about Germans in this county.

[And let's face it, we came very close to having German as our national language.]

For years, we could never find enough records on a George Valentine **BUTCHER** to know just exactly who he was – other than he had resided in Augusta County, Virginia, but when we did, the name was generally recorded as a **VALENTINE BUTCHER**. His will and most of his probate record had been lost. However the most convincing evidence of the name transition is found in records after his death in 1773, which said that Valentine **BUTCHER** of Augusta Co. was in reality Georg Valentin **METZGER**!

I consulted a German Research Specialist at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and he found a Lutheran church book kept in Niederlinxweiler (1726) for three other towns. The earliest records were held in Ottweiler which covered the time period 1617 to 1626 and during this time before the 30-Year War, the church got big enough to have its own parish in Niederlinxweiler. Before the war, there were 15 houses in this village and after the 2<sup>nd</sup> siege of war in 1677 the town was burned down and as of 1684, there had been 7 houses rebuilt. So it was no wonder that it took 100 years (1626-1726) for the village of Niederlinxweiler to become big enough to support a minister again.

Johan Philip **METZGER** died 24 Dec 1738 and was 69 years old when he was buried on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December in Niederlinxweiler according to parish registers. (microfilm #1052688 – burials). He was the son of a Johann Jacob **METZGER**. Johan Philip **METZGER** married Anna Cathrina **DOHN/THOM** on 17 Jan 1696 in Ottweiler and had two known sons Georg Valentin and Johann Adam. She died 8 April 1742.

Georg Valentin **METZGER** married Maria Elisabetha **KIEPPERT** on 6 Dec 1739 according to the same film of parish registers. She was the d/o Johann Wilhelm **KIEFFERT** and Anna Catharina **LEPPER**, all of Niederlinxweiler, Saarland, Germany.

According to the publication "Niederlinxweiler Die Familien, 1537-1973" at the Family History Library, a G. V. **METZGER** was born 19 April 1715 in Mainzweiler, Germany. His christening record on 22 April 1715 was found in this publication, written in German.

[I can truly say that hiring a professional to read the records was worth every penny.]

Niederlinxweiler is between St. Wendel and Ottweiler and about 15 km northeast of Saarbrücken, Germany and is in southwest Germany. My

German specialist actually found the family in what would be called a county history, from which he then translated the pertinent parts for me.

Georg Valentin and his wife, Mary Elisabetha applied for and were granted manumission for 30 florins on 21<sup>st</sup> of March 1749. His occupation was listed as a "kiefer" or barrel-maker. Their papers gave the same marriage date in Niederlinxweiler.

***Manumission means all their obligations to their native country had been fulfilled and they were free to travel to other countries.***

They left with their family soon after 21<sup>st</sup> of March 1749 to catch an American-bound ship in Rotterdam, which would take them to America on 6 Dec 1739. Their daughters, Anna Barbara and Louisa METZGER came with them. The Ottweiler manumission records indicate that the Georg's brother Hans Adam with his wife Maria Cathrina SCHERER METZGER was also granted permission to leave.

As Jeff and David's article in the HCPD Journal several years ago stated, these METZGER families had not been found in the emigration lists for Philadelphia for the fall of 1749. It was possible they landed at another port, such as NJ or MD. However, on the Saarland emigrants list of 26 people/families emigrated in 1749 and of these – 8 persons had no record of entry into American. Several of these settled in Frederick Co., MD with our METZGER families.

Evidently Georg Valentin METZGER and his family immediately settled in Frederick Co., MD as he was named in a court record of suing Nicholas Bunderick for the 11£ that was owed to Georg. In a sales bill from 1754, this Nicholas was identified as a "carpenter in Augusta Co., VA and came from Niederlinxweiler. There are records of METZGERs in Frederick Co. through 1800.

At the Frederick Evangelical Lutheran Church in Frederick, MD in 1751, a son was born to Johann Adam METZGER and one of the sponsors at the boy's baptism, was Mary Elisabeth KEIPPERT, the wife of Georg Valentin. On 26 Jan 1753, Georg Valentin and Mary Elisabeth in the records had a son Balthasar, who was baptized on 3 March 1753 in this same church.

The translator said that Paulser and Balser were nicknames for the more formal Balthasar, as the b's and p's have the same pronunciation in German.

On the same church record page as Balthasar METZGER is the baptism record of a daughter of Johann Adam Beck – this name as well as



those of **BACH**, **KONIG** and **FLESHER** were found in the ship lists and they were all from Niederlinxweiler. When a Balthasar **BACH** (sponsor of Paulser's baptism) died in 1796, the minister's report reads "... in 1749 he came to this land from Germany with some of his countrymen, here to Fredericktown", which confirmed that this group of emigrants were traveling together.

In 1761 a Valentine **MATCHIER** bought 275 acres in Rockingham Co., VA. Soon after this George Valentine and Mary Elisabeth (this record called her Anna Elisabeth) had another son, George Valentine, Jr. who was baptized 2 Mar 1762 at the Peaked Mountain Church (present-day McGaffeysville, VA.) This church was a combination of the German Reformed and Lutheran denominations and Peaked Mountain is now called the Massanutten Mountain. (as an aside, Massanutten is the name of an old well-known military school that my husband attended for his 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades). The closest town is Woodstock, VA.

There is also a record in this church of the oldest daughter of George Valentine and Mary Elisabeth – the Anna Barbara, who married Jacob Cropp on 2 Mar 1762. As I mentioned before it was the baptism of Anna Barbara, born in Niederlinxweiler on 4 Aug 1743 that is the proven connection of this family in the Shenandoah Valley to Germany.

*I can never thank my cousins Jeff **CARR** and David **ARMSTRONG**, enough for their research and report. They did a fabulous job!*

One more strange record was found in the February 1761 session of the Augusta Co. Court, showing a **VALENTINE BUTCHER** posted bail for a **JACOB ARCHENBRIGHT** in a suit but the order does not record the charge or outcome of this case.

Balthasar **METZGER** became Paulser **BUTCHER**, a settler in the area that eventually became Pendleton County, WV. My 4<sup>th</sup> great grandfather died there in 1829 and is buried in the Butchersville cemetery.

This is so important to me because five generations from George Valentine **METZGER/BUTCHER** and Jacob **ARCHENBRIGHT/ARGABRITE** – their children Isaac Everett **BUTCHER** and Martha Elizabeth **ARGABRITE** were married in Clendinin, WV on 25 Nov 1896 and they became my father's parents.

So they were definitely not early English settlers in the Valley of Virginia but were early Germans who came to that beautiful place which is part of my beloved West Virginia areas.

## **Lewis County Had Several Outstanding Lawyers As Members of Early Bar**

By JACK SANDY ANDERSON

>From its formation in 1816 to the beginning of the Civil War in 1861, Lewis County had a number of outstanding lawyers who gave great distinction to its bar and made it well known throughout what was then Northwestern Virginia. Most of these lawyers at one time or another lived in Weston, the county seat, where they were active in community affairs and contributed in many ways to the town's early development. Among them were Col. John MCWHORTER, Col. Alexander Scott WITHERS, Lewis MAXWELL, Cabell TAVENNER, Gideon Draper CAMDEN. Jonathan McCally BENNETT. Caleb BOGGESS, Jr., Matthew EDMISTON and John BRANNON.

Col. John MCWHORTER, the oldest child of Henry and Mary (FIELDS) MCWHORTER; was born April 28, 1784. probably in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. A native of New Jersey, his father rendered valiant service in the American Revolution and in 1786 came from Pennsylvania to present Hampshire County, West Virginia. where he lived until settling four years later in Hacker's Creek Valley. (The log cabin that Henry MCWHORTER built in 1793 on Hacker's Creek was moved to Jackson's Mill many years ago.)

Although his educational advantages were practically non-existent, Col. MCWHORTER persevered by educating himself and as a young man became a lawyer noted for his extraordinary ability. In the War of 1812 he held the rank of captain in the Virginia Militia and served under Gen. William Henry Harrison at Fort Meigs. Toward the end of the war he was commissioned a captain in Col. William King's Third Regiment, U.S. Rifles. and after the war accepted a commission as a colonel of the Virginia Militia. He was active in politics and while serving in the Virginia General Assembly in 1816, originated with his good friend. Dr. Edward Brake JACKSON. also a member of the Virginia General Assembly, the bill that created Lewis County from the southern part of Harrison County.

As a lawyer, Col. MCWHORTER was known for his keen logic and for his refusal to defend a cause he deemed wrong or a client he considered guilty of duplicity. On one occasion a client asked that Col. MCWHORTER represent him in some litigation through the courts. After hearing the client explain his plans. Col. MCWHORTER realized they were based on duplicity,

if not outright dishonesty. At the conclusion of his explanation the client asked: "Colonel can I win the case?" Col. **MCWHORTER** promptly replied: "That depends upon the jury. If you have an unscrupulous or fool jury. you are likely to win: but if you have an honorable and intelligent jury. they will see at once that the whole scheme is based upon damned rascality." The client decided not to instigate the litigation.

While he possessed a superior intellect, Col. **MCWHORTER** was an eccentric whose peculiarities amused his many friends. He was also extremely absent-minded. sometimes to his great dismay, and all through his long life often forgot to keep appointments and misplaced important papers relevant to his law practice. At a Clarksburg banquet he helped himself to a generous serving of horseradish which he thought was egg custard. his favorite dessert. A black servant waiting on the table exclaimed: "Colonel, dat am not custard! It am ground hoss radish!" Unwilling to admit his mistake. Col. **MCWHORTER** answered him. "I reckon I know what I am doing" and proceeded to eat. Tears streamed down his cheeks as he ate the red hot horseradish, but he bravely continued until he had consumed the last bit.

He served in both houses of the Virginia General Assembly and as a justice of Lewis County. In his later years he became a local Methodist Episcopal preacher and was instrumental in building a church on Rush Run where he often preached. He never married. Near the end of his life, he was asked by a friend why he had remained a bachelor. He replied: "Well, when I was young, I guess I was too hard to please. And now I am so old and dilapidated that I can't find a woman who will have me." He died April 14, 1880, two weeks before his 96th birthday.

Like Col. **MCWHORTER**, Alexander Scott **WITHERS** was born in the 18th century and was usually called "colonel" during his mature years. A son of Enoch K. and Jennet (**CHINE**) **WITHERS**, he was born Oct. 12, 1792, the 300th anniversary of Columbus's discovery of America, at Green Meadows, his parents' estate located a few miles from Warrenton in Fauquier County, Va. His maternal grandmother, Mrs. Thomas (Jennet **SCOTT**) **CHINN**. was related to Sir Walter **SCOTT**. the famous British writer, and Col. **WITHERS** took much pride in this relationship.

His early education was received at home and at private schools. He then attended Washington College (now Washington and Lee) at Lexington and studied law at William and Mary in Williamsburg. For a few years he

practiced law in Fauquier County, and in the 1820's established his



*William Withers*

residence in the West Fork Valley which he thought would afford economic opportunities for him and his family.

While living near Bridgeport, he was asked by a Clarksburg printer, Joseph **ISRAEL**, to write for publication a book devoted to the Indian warfare which had raged when western Virginia was part of America's frontier. Mr. **ISRAEL** had acquired a manuscript on the subject which had been prepared by William **POWERS** and William **HACKER**, both of whom belonged to families involved in this warfare. Col. **WITHERS** had the educational background necessary to write a satisfactory book and agreed to undertake the far-from-easy task. To the manuscript he added material obtained from Edwin Steele **DUNCAN**, a leading Clarksburg lawyer, later an eminent judge, who had collected data on the subject, plus material from other sources. He industriously applied himself to writing the book which he named "Chronicles of Border Warfare" and in 1831 it was printed. (Years

ago Anne Lorentz wrote that Joseph Israel maintained his printing shop in a building, once a tavern, that stood on the northeast corner of Clarksburg's Main and Third streets.)

Col. **WITHERS**'s labor proved to be truly a labor of love. for his only pay was two or three copies of the book. Presumably, Mr. Israel fell victim to severe financial difficulties and in late 1831 or early 1832 was forced to relinquish his printing business that included publication of a pioneer newspaper. *The Clarksburg Enquirer*. Be that as it may, the book soon made its author well-known far and wide and earned him deserved praise for having preserved a thrilling and important segment of frontier history.

From Harrison County, Col. **WITHERS** went to Missouri where he remained but a short time. Upon returning to present West Virginia he settled in Lewis County and there resided until moving to Parkersburg with his daughter a few years before his death. In Lewis County he found many congenial friends who appreciated his unique personality and his considerable talents. Soon he was counted as one of the leading citizens and served as a justice of the county. He conducted a school in Weston for a brief time and also operated a store. In 1857 he acquired a farm near the mouth of McCann's Run which he had previously leased and on which he had lived for a number of years. Although he had superb knowledge of law. he disliked addressing a jury and a crowded court room: he therefore limited himself to routine legal work that did not require speaking before a large group of people:

He was acquainted with Mrs. Jonathan **JACKSON** (the former Julia Neale) and her son. Thomas Jonathan (later the world famous Stonewall **JACKSON**), whom he befriended more than once. I suspect that his acquaintance with Mrs. **JACKSON** derived from a blood relationship. for her maternal grandmother was Frances **WITHERS**. wife of Capt. Minor Winn, of Fauquier County, Va. In 1839 Thomas Jonathan, then an orphan boy living at **JACKSON**'s Mill attended Col. **WITHERS**'s school held in the Lewis County Court House. Col. **WITHERS** was impressed by young **JACKSON**'s eagerness to learn and encouraged him to pursue his education.

Col. **WITHERS** considered himself a gentleman of the Old Dominion and acted accordingly. He never appeared in public unless well dressed and was often accompanied by a black servant whose job it was to carry anything his master might choose to buy for Col. **WITHERS** thought it undignified for a gentleman to be seen carrying packages. While he loved farming and knew a great deal about it, he did not like the physical work

necessary to make farming successful and left its performance to his servants and to hired hands. As the years went by he came into possession of much land, some of which he gave to his two sons during his lifetime. In spite of his rather grand manner, the unsophisticated country people whom he enjoyed visiting like him, for they recognized in him a friend and were impressed by his learning although occasionally amused by his idiosyncrasies. Children especially liked him; and he frequently entertained them with fascinating stories about Indian warfare and his own childhood spent in Farquier County where he had encountered a variety of experiences, some of them colorful and exciting.

Even though he was intensely proud of being a Virginian, he strongly supported the Union and was a delegate to the First Wheeling Convention that chose him to serve on its committee on state and federal relations. The Civil War brought him anguish and grief. One of his sons: Henry H. **WITHERS**, was an officer in the Union Army; but a much loved grandson, William C. **TAVENNER**, died fighting for the Confederacy.

In August 1815 Col. **WITHERS** married Melinda **FISHER** (June 1, 1793-Sept. 15, 1854), daughter of Samuel and Mary **FISHER**, of Fauquier County. To them were born five children: Jennet (**TAVENNER**), Enoch T., Henry H., Josephine (**OWENS**), and Elizabeth (**THORNHILL**). His death occurred in the Parkersburg home of his daughter, Mrs. **TAVENNER**, on January 23, 1865. Col. **WITHERS** and his wife and other family members are buried in the **ARNOLD** Cemetery on a hillside overlooking downtown Weston.

Lewis **MAXWELL** one of Weston's founders, was also born in the 18th century, his birth having occurred in 1790 in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. When he was a boy, his widowed mother (Jane **LEWIS MAXWELL** widow of Thomas **MAXWELL**) brought her children to the West Fork Valley and settled on Brown's Creek. As a young man he studied law and became seriously interested in politics. From 1827 to 1833 he was a member of Congress, serving in the House of Representatives. He was an early justice of Lewis County and worked to promote its development and that of Weston, where for years he resided.

He purchased the Jacob **BONNETT** farm north of Weston and in 1835 surveyed it into lots for a town which he named Jane Lew in honor of his mother. Later in life he lived in Doddridge County, where he was a large landowner and died at his home near West Union on Feb. 13, 1862. His wife, the former Sophronia **WILSON**, predeceased him.

Cabell TAVENNER, who was Col. WITHER's son-in-law, was the recognized leader of the county bar in the mid-1840's. Tall and slender with delicate features, he was a handsome man who looked like an aristocrat of antebellum Virginia. There was, however, nothing aristocratic in his manner, for he was a friendly person who took genuine interest in his fellowmen and their daily lives. For several years before his death he suffered from poor health and was not able to do much physical work. When it was time to work on the main road through Weston (a requirement for men in olden days, he was given the job of supervising for the other workers knew his physical limitations .

Born June 5, 1808, at Parkersburg, he was a son of Col. Thomas and Elizabeth (BEAUCHAMP) TAVENNER.

He graduated from Athens College in Ohio and studied law under John Jay JACKSON, a prominent Parkersburg lawyer. He located in Weston to practice his profession and married Jennet S. WITHERS, the oldest child of Col. Alexander Scott WITHERS. Mr. TAVENNER was an excellent lawyer with many clients: but his poor health - which progressively worsened - eventually curtailed his practice. He had the reputation of being a fluent forceful speaker and a lawyer with the ability to solve complex legal problems within a short time. Before coming to Weston, he resided for a while in Harrison County and there acquired property which included 1000 acres of land on Tenmile Creek and a valuable lot in Clarksburg. He died Dec. 8, 1849, and is buried on the Withers lot in the Arnold Cemetery.

Cabell TAVENNER and his wife had four children: William C. Thomas Alexander, Elizabeth Melinda and Jennette Ann. The oldest William C. TAVENNER. fought for the Confederacy as a lieutenant colonel in the 17th Virginia Cavalry and at the age of 23 was killed in an engagement at Frederick. Md., on July 1 L 1864.

In the ante-bellum period Gideon Draper CAMDEN was one of Northwestern Virginia's leading lawyers.

Born Aug. 3 L 1805, probably in Montgomery County, Md., he was a son of Henry and Mary Belt (Sprig") CAMDEN. who in 1806 settled in the upper West Fork Valley several miles south of present Weston. In 1822, Co1. John G. STRINGER. clerk of Lewis County's Superior Court, employed young CAMDEN as a deputy. This position, which he held for a few years, gave him a familiarity with legal forms and procedures and caused him to want to be a lawyer. He then attended a law school at Wytheville, Va., was awarded a license, and established his practice at Weston in 1827.

Sometime before 1850 he made Clarksburg his place of residence, although he continued to be closely associated with Weston and Lewis County. In 1852 he was elected judge of Virginia's 21st Circuit and eight years later was re-elected. Feeling that his primary allegiance belonged to his state rather than the Union, he supported the South during the Civil War, spent the war years in Confederate Virginia, and served as a member of the Confederate Congress. Returning to Clarksburg after the war, he resumed his practice and once again became active in politics. In 1872 he was elected to the State Senate as a Democrat. Judge **CAMDEN** was an astute businessman and in his later years was one of Clarksburg's wealthiest citizens.

He married Sally Arnold **HOFFMAN**, daughter of James **HOFFMAN**, who died Sept. 18, 1876. Their children were: Eliza Ann, Martha, Gideon Draper, Jr., John Allen, and Dora. For his second wife he married Mrs. Almira Hornor **DAVIS** (1844 - 1925), widow of Dr. Edward **DAVIS** and daughter of Ferdinand Yard and Mary A. (**ROBINSON**) **HORNOR**. Judge **CAMDEN** died April 22, 1891. His widow, in 1897, married the Hon. George W. **ATKINSON**, 10<sup>th</sup> governor of West Virginia.



**JONATHAN M.  
BENNETT**

As a lawyer, politician, and businessman, Jonathan McCally **BENNETT** achieved great success in life and for many years was Weston's foremost citizen. Born near the junction of Bennett's Run and the West Fork River in what came to be southern Lewis



County on Oct. 4, 1814, he was a son of William and Rebecca (McCally) **BENNETT**. While a young man he gained legal expertise serving as a deputy sheriff and as a deputy clerk of the Lewis County Superior Court. He educated himself to be a lawyer and in 1843 passed his bar examination before the Judge of Lewis County and formed a partnership with Gideon Draper **CAMDEN**.

In 1852, he was elected Weston's first mayor and in that same year was instrumental in the establishment of the town's first bank. During the early 1850's he served in the Virginia General Assembly and in 1872 was elected to the West Virginia Senate where he served with distinction for four years. In 1871 he was appointed one of the commissioners to work toward a solution of the controversial Virginia Debt problem.

Mr. **BENNETT** was deeply involved in encouraging the development and growth of Weston and Lewis County. He was influential in having Weston served with good roads and in the building of railroads to link the town with Clarksburg and Buckhannon. Largely through his influence, Virginia decided to establish a trans-Allegheny mental hospital at Weston; its construction began before the Civil War and was completed by West Virginia after the new state became a reality in 1863. His sympathies were with the Confederacy when the Civil War erupted; and during the war years he lived in Richmond where he served Virginia as its first (or principal) auditor of public accounts, an office he assumed in 1857.

In 1846 he married Margaret Elizabeth **JACKSON**, daughter of Capt. George Washington and Hester (**TAYLOR**) **JACKSON**. To them were born four children: William George, Louis, Gertrude and Mary Lee. His wife died Nov. 3, 1886, and nearly a year later on Oct. 28, 1887, his death occurred. They are buried in Weston's Machpelah Cemetery.

Caleb **BOGGESS**, Jr., who was Judge Gideon Draper **CAMDEN**'s son-in-law, was widely regarded for his legal knowledge and during his later years was ranked among north central West Virginia's most successful lawyers.. Born at Lumberport on April 29, 1822, he was a son of Caleb and Mary (**ROBINSON**) **BOGGESS** and a grandson of Revolutionary War soldiers. Samuel **BOGGESS** and Benjamin **ROBINSON**, both of whom were officers in that war.

In 1845 he graduated with honor from the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Va., and then studied law under the illustrious Clarksburg lawyer, Edwin Steele **DUNCAN**. He was admitted to the bar of Harrison County in 1847. A year later he married Judge **CAMDEN**'s daughter, Eliza

Ann (1826 - 1889), and shortly thereafter settled in Weston where his pleasing personality and legal expertise won him a leading place in the Lewis County bar. In 1861 he was elected to represent Lewis County in the Richmond convention called to consider if Virginia should secede or remain in the Union. Mr. **BOGGESS** supported the Union and returned home in dismay when the convention voted in favor of secession. During his absence his home was destroyed by fire (reportedly by secessionists); and he and his wife established their residence in Clarksburg where they continued to reside for the remainder of their lives.

For a considerable period of time Mr. **BOGGESS** was the chief counsel in the state for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and was serving in that capacity at the time of his death. He argued cases before the State Supreme Court of Appeals and before the Supreme Court of the United States. One who knew him well wrote that he had a rare legal and mathematical mind, delighted in investigating intricate legal questions, and always thoroughly mastered every case he undertook.

According to a great-grandnephew, Dr. Robert S. **WILSON**. Mr. **BOGGESS** converted to Roman Catholicism because he was deeply impressed and touched by the devoted care his teen-age daughter, Sally **CAMDEN**, received from the nuns at Wheeling's Mount de Chantal which she was attending when she became ill and died in 1864. Mr. **BOGGESS**'s other children were Gideon Draper, Mary Genevieve **HOFFMAN**, and Richard. Caleb **BOGGESS**. Jr., died at Clarksburg on April 14, 1889

For years one of West Virginia's ablest lawyers, Matthew **EDMISTON** was born in Pocahontas County on Sept. 9, 1814. He studied (or "read") law in the office of a relative in Fincastle, Botetourt County, attained prominence as a lawyer of outstanding ability. For several years he was associated with George Hay Lee, a distinguished Clarksburg lawyer later a judge, and maintained offices in Weston, Clarksburg and Parkersburg.

In 1852 he was appointed a judge of the circuit court and competently served as such until 1860 when he resumed his law practice. In 1886 he was appointed to the State Supreme Court of Appeals to fill the vacancy caused by death of Judge John Stringer **HOFFMAN**. Prior to the Civil War he represented Lewis County in both houses of the Virginia General Assembly.

Judge **EDMISTON** died June 29, 1887. He and his wife, the former Minerva Anne **BLAND** (1821-1895), whom he married in 1840, were the parents of several children: Thomas Bland, Theodric Granville, Matthew, Jr.,

George L., Andrew, Hallie S., Fanny, Mary, and Ella Roberta. Andrew, who was a well known lawyer, served in the state legislature and for eight years was prosecuting attorney of Lewis County; the other four sons became medical doctors.

Admitted to the Lewis County bar in 1847, John **BRANNON** was a Weston lawyer noted for his command of various branches of law and for his sterling integrity. He was born in Winchester, V A, in 1821, a son of Robert and Catherine (Copenhaver) **BRANNON**, and was educated at Winchester Academy, a classical school with a reputation for excellence. In Weston he developed a flourishing and profitable practice and became actively involved in politics. For a time he was superintendent of the Staunton and turnpike and urged the state government to appropriate larger sums for the road's maintenance.

He served in the Virginia legislature as a member of its House of Delegates and then was elected to its state senate. He gave his allegiance to the South during the Civil War and, with his family, resided in Richmond. On June 4, 1864, Pres. Jefferson **DAVIS** recommended that Mr. **BRANNON** be made a captain in the Quartermaster Dept. of the Confederate Army, retroactive in July 9, 1863; and on June 14, 1864, the Confederate Senate confirmed his appointment.

In 1872 he was elected a circuit judge, serving West Virginia's 6th Judicial Circuit. Although a most capable judge, he did not seek reelection in 1880. A younger brother, Henry **BRANNON** (1837 - 1914), was also a Weston lawyer and rose to prominence as a jurist serving for eight years as a circuit judge and 24 years as a judge of the state's Supreme Court of Appeals.

In 1848 Judge John **BRANNON** married Amanda **BLAND** (1825-1907), daughter of Col. Thomas and Mary (Newton) **BLAND**. To them were born four children: Alice, Florence, Lilly and **BLAND**. Judge **BRANNON** died Dec. 23, 1901.

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Jack Sandy Anderson is a writer and historian. He serves as president of the Harrison County Historical Society.*

## **The Humphrey Arnold Family Cont. from p. 8**

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## WHERE DID THEY GO?

Items for the Journal sometimes languish in our files until they surface from the bottom of the pile. Such is the case with these bios of men who left what is now Central West Virginia and who moved to Morrow County, Ohio. I have no idea who submitted them – but that are for the enjoyment of all. They are found in History of Morrow County., Ohio 1880, Chicago; O.L.Baskin & Co., Historical Publishers.

D. D. **BOOHER**, of Irwin & Booher, real estate and abstract office, also insurance; Mt.Gilead; was born near Weston, Va., Oct. 17, 1841; his mother died during his infancy and he lived with relatives in Virginia until he was nine' years of age, when he and his brother came West with their uncle, and settled in Westfield Tp., near Cardington, Ohio, and lived there about five years; in 1853 his father settled near Cardington, and, upon his marriage in 1855, D. D. and his brother Spencer made their home with him. D. D .soon hired out by the month and worked until 1861; in April of that year he enlisted in the 4th O. V. 1. for three month's service, and they were afterward reorganized and enlisted for three years' service, throughout which he served, taking part in the battles of Rich Mountain, Winchester, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, The Wilderness, Spottsylvania CourtHouse, North Anna, Cold Harbor, etc. At Gettysburg he was slightly wounded, and at Cold Harbor, just three days prior-to the discharge of the command, he was wounded and confined to the hospital for three months. He then returned to Cardington, Ohio, and attended school, commencing in the lowest classes, and, after a year's course, began teaching in the district schools part of the time and attending school part of the time. He taught the Westfield school, and later attended the Normal School at Lebanon, O., and in the summer of the third year he, with Mr. Brown, taught the Cardington school. The following January he resigned his position and entered upon the duties of County Recorder, serving as such for six years. He continued in Mt. Gilead, after his term of office, until 1877, when he moved his farm, located one and a half miles due east of Mt. Gilead. Oct. 3, 1872 he married Mary, daughter of Dr. **GRANGER**, of Westfield Tp., this county. They have four children: Raymond, Edna Dean, Ada and Emma. His parents, Joseph and .Jane (**DAVIS**) **BOOHER**, were natives of Virginia, and married there. She died there in 1841. They had two children: Spencer and

D. D. He continued in Virginia until 1853, when he moved to Cardington, and in 1855 married Miss Amanda FOUST. He lived in that vicinity until his death, in September, 1877; she is living near Cardington.

.JOHN W. HOFF, Cardington; is a native of Harrison Co., Va., is the son of Abraham and Mary (WATERS) HOFF, and was born March 10, 1834; the parents were Virginians, and the father lived there until his death, in 1839; a few years afterwards the mother married Edward ARMSTRONG, "who also died, when she came, in 1878, to live with her son, our subject; she bore her first husband four children, two of whom are yet living; our subject and his sister, Sarah C. DRURY, now a resident of Linn Co., Mo.; the father was a prominent man, occupying many positions of trust, dealing extensively in stock, and was one of the largest agriculturalists in Harrison Co., Va.; the mother is yet living with her son, John W. until the age of fourteen, our subject had received no education, but at this age he began going to school winters and worked on farms summers, saving by economy sufficient money to pay his expenses for some time at the O.W.U. at Delaware, O.; he began teaching when eighteen, and has followed that calling every winter since, except two, when he was in the army; he was a member of Co. C, 145th O. V. 1., and also a member of Co. K, 88th O. V. 1., and served about one year; on the 9th of March, 1856, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary HULL, a native of Delaware Co., O., born Dec. 15, 1835; these parents have had a family of eleven children, seven of whom are living: Mary A., Vinnie T., Zella M., Henry H., Herman C., Virginia V., Neva R., living, and Viola A., John W., Ida L., and a babe not named, deceased. Mr. HOFF owns forty acres of land in Cardington Twp., and one hundred and twenty in Benton Co., Iowa; for a number of years Mr. HOFF has dealt largely in horses, and is now one of two partners who own Forfar Chief, a full-blooded Clydesdale horse, imported from Scotland in 1874, by Rosser and Thompson, of Ontario, Canada; the horse is a dark bay, sixteen and a half hands high, and weighs 1990 lbs.; the horse in 1879 took the sweepstakes premium at the Ohio State Fair over eight competitors. Mr. HOFF is a Republican, and is a member of Cardington Lodge No. 384 F. and A.M., and Lodge No. 194 I. O. O. F.; his daughter Mary A. began teaching at the unprecedented age of thirteen years, and has since taught nine terms; she was the youngest applicant who ever received a certificate to teach in Morrow Co.; Mr. HOFF came from Muskingum County to Delaware Co. in 1852, thence to Morrow Co. in 1871, and is one of the county's best citizens.

ABRAM HARDMAN, farmer; P.O., Mt. Gilead; was born in Harrison Co., Va., April 25, 1825, and emigrated to this State with his parents when he was a lad of 8 years. His father, Daniel HARDMAN, was born Nov. 6, 1787, and his wife, May 29, one year later; both were natives of Virginia; in 1833, they settled in this township, where he purchased 80 acres on Section 33, which was then in a perfect state of nature; bridle-paths were then cut through the timber leading to Gilead, then a mere nothing as regards a town. Here his father built his cabin, which is yet standing in the yard, a relic of those times; he purchased his land from a second party, who had purchased the same from the Government; he paid \$110 for the 80 acres. Here Daniel HARDMAN lived until death claimed him, Jan. 19, 1837; his wife survived him until 1876. Abram's father dying, he was reared by his mother. There were fourteen children in the family; he was tenth in order. March 7, 1849, he was married to Hannah OLIVER, born in this county, Nov. 10, 1830, a daughter of William OLIVER. She died May 24, 1856, having had three children - Sarah Ann, now Mrs. Wesley MYERS, of Cardington; Hannah E., now Mrs. M. GEYER, of Paulding Co.; the third died in infancy. June 24, 1857, he was married the second time to Eliza J. ROGERS, who was born in Aug. 1835, in Richland Co., daughter of Wm. H., and Mary M. (CURTIS) ROGERS. They have had seven children - Mary O., Martha J., John C., Ida, Lewis, Wm. H., one dying in infancy. He has 95 acres.

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The Rohr-Reynolds Reunion  
is scheduled for  
August 7 at Jacksons Mill.

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# NATHAN CLARK

Based on information found in the files of the late Josephine **PERKEY STALNAKER**  
and research of the late Hartzel **STRADER**.

On the program of every human life is written "Final Scene: -  
Monitory of the hurried farewell, the choking sob and farewell, the choking  
sob and the parting forever, not matter how fair and serene life's course has  
been, there comes a time to the reverent soul when the veil is lifted, and in  
the awful hush of that moment we called death, when the fetters are falling  
from the spirits limbs and strains of music, soft as the rustle of wings, it is  
permitted to look upon unveiled splendor, their own faint whispers can not  
portray it, we must go down to the dark waters, embark in the unseen realm.  
The divine instinct whispers "It is well" – a secret, flamed wreathed and  
singing, thorn crowded and rejoicing so be with it our elderly neighbor,  
Nathan **CLARK**, whom the great and supreme ruler of the universe has, in  
his infinite wisdom, called ternal home. The deceased was born on the  
waters of Little Skin Creek, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1839, and lived there all of his  
life.

Indured to hardship, bravery and valor from early youth, he  
sustained, with many fortitude and fatigue of the chase, the campaign and  
scout, and helped to preordain this land of liberty.

"Our forest life was rough and rude, and dangers closed round; but  
here amid the green old wood, freed was sought and found".

Passing away at his birth-place, November 30, 1910, if he but had  
witnesses the raising of the sun and going down here of fifteen more times,  
he would have been 71 years of age.

He leaves a widow, four daughters and three sons, to mounm his  
loss, all of whom reside in Lewis County.

Nathan was the son of John **CLARK** and grandson of William  
**CLARK**, a Revolutionary War soldier, fighting under General  
**WASHINGTON**, participating in many important engagements, including  
Yorktown and witnessed the surrender of , handing of the sword by **O'HARA**  
to Washington, which he declined to accept, sending **LINCOLN** to receive it.  
He was of Scotch-Irish descent.

"When war is declared and danger high, God and soldiers is the  
people's cry."



Mr. CLARK himself was imbued with the war spirit, and answered the call of the South and joined the Confederate Army in Company I, of the thirty-first Regiment, and was afterwards transferred to the command of General Thomas J. JACKSON, than whom no braver soldier ever drew a sword. He served with utmost energy and fidelity to the cause and honor pledged, engaging in the conflicts of Antietam, Cedar Creek, Bull Run, The Wilderness, Gettysburg and elsewhere.

Being twice wounded, and it was while he was suffering from a wound and lying in a hospital that he met in person of his faithful nurse the lady who afterwards became his wife, having returned to claim her as his bride when the conflict was over.

"And home to virtues not returned, full many a blessing of the war."

The maiden name of his wife was Mary Margaret MOHLER. She was a native of Rockbridge County, Virginia, and the marriage took place October 16, 1865.

To the happy union eight children were born, all living save one, who died in infancy. Nathan CLARK was one of the best known and excellent farmers of Lewis County. He was a good neighbor, firm friend and loyal citizen.

He believed in being a son of the soil and eating bread by the sweat of his brow, performing uncomplainingly his share of the world's labor, living a true life inspired by Mother Nature, honest and unselfish motives and the practice of the "Golden Rule" will give us a square deal and the comforts of life and peace.

The sad funeral rites took place from old Mt. Gilead Church. Rev. J. J. PHILLIPS, his pastor, officiating. His mortal remains were interred in the Georgetown Cemetery.

Let us emulate his virtues.  
Death our dearest ties can sever.  
Take our loved one from our side.  
Bear him from our home forever.

O'er the dark cold river side.  
In that happy land we'll meet him.  
With those loved and gone before and again with Joy  
We'll greet him.  
There where parting is no more.

Nathan **CLARK**, b. 15 Dec 1839 in Lewis Co., Virginia. He married Mary Margaret **MOHLER**, married 12 Oct 1865, b. 3 Jan 1847 in Rockbridge Co., Virginia, d. 24 Feb 1936 in Lewis Co., W.Va. Nathan died 30 Nov 1911 in Lewis Co., W.Va.

I. William L. **CLARK**, b. 1 Sep 1875 in Lewis Co., W.Va., d. 14 Nov 1965 in Lewis Co., W.Va.

II. Alvin Lee **CLARK**, b. 27 Dec 1867 in Lewis Co., W.Va. He married Mary Gertrude **LINGER**, married 4 Oct 1891 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 28 Oct 1871 in Lewis Co., W.Va., (daughter of Phillip Fairburn **LINGER** and Susan Elizabeth **CAMPBELL**) d. 28 Mar 1907 in Lewis Co., W.Va. Alvin died 6 Jul 1962 in Lewis Co., W.Va.

A. Queen Esther **CLARK**, b. 30 Mar 1897 in Little Skin Creek, Lewis Co., W.Va. She married Milo Arlington **TAYLOR**, married 16 Nov 1916 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 20 Aug 1890 in Stonecoal, Lewis Co., W.Va., (son of Franz Luis **TAYLOR** and Diana Victoria **HARDMAN**) d. 1976 in Stonecoal, Lewis Co., W.Va. Queen died 8 Nov 1989 in Upshur Co., W.Va.

B. Edith M. **CLARK**, b. 19 Nov 1899 in Little Skin Creek, Lewis Co., W.Va. She married Leland Lawrence **GOULD**, married 17 Aug 1918 in Oakland, Maryland, b. 2 Oct 1899 in Lewis Co., W.Va., d. 4 Jun 1972 in Lewis Co., W.Va. Edith died 20 Jan 1992 in Lewis Co., W.Va.

C. Alvin Clyde **CLARK**, b. 27 Jul 1892 in Lewis Co., W.Va. He married Nora Lee **HUDKINS**, married 20 Jul 1921 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 2 Apr 1900 in Lewis Co., W.Va., (daughter of Thomas Lee **HUDKINS** and Susan Virginia **SMITH**) d. 18 Nov 1990. Alvin died 23 May 1977.

D. Hattie Elizabeth **CLARK**, b. 15 Jul 1893 in Little Skin Creek, Lewis Co., W.Va. She married John Goff **ROLLYSON**, married 21 Oct 1914 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 1 Mar 1887 in Lewis Co., W.Va., (son of John Allen **ROLLYSON** and Ollie Laura **PARKER**).

E. Wilma Pearl **CLARK**, b. 24 Feb 1895 in Little Skin Creek, Lewis Co., W.Va. She married Bryan **PERKEY**, married 1923, b. 1892.

1. Betty Lou **PERKEY**, b. 25 Mar 1920 in Lewis Co., W.Va. She married Maple Highland **SUMMERS**, married 22 Aug 1944, b. 31 Dec 1924 in Lewis Co., W.Va., (son of Robert Creed **SUMMERS** and Donna May **DUNCAN**).

- III. Anna Jane **CLARK**, b. 12 Mar 1870 in Little Skin Creek, Lewis Co., W.Va. She married George B. McClellan **BUSH**, married 18 Sep 1890 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. NOV 1862 in Stonecoal, Lewis Co., W.Va., (son of Elias **BUSH** and Emily Jane **ROGERS**). Anna died 19 May 1927 in Gaston, Lewis Co., W.Va.
- A. Kyle Elias **BUSH**, b. 7 May 1901 in Lewis Co., W.Va. He married Icie Madge **CLARK**, married 22 Feb 1925 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 15 Sep 1897 in Little Skin Creek, Lewis Co., W.Va., (daughter of John Elliot **CLARK** and Lovary Iciphe **LOUGH**) d. 27 Dec 1991 in Lewis Co., W.Va. Kyle died in Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - B. Margaret Fronie **BUSH**, b. 18 Aug 1892 in Gaston, Lewis Co., W.Va. She married Velva Franklin 'Bib' **WARNER**, married 3 Sep 1920 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 2 Nov 1889 in Austin, Lewis Co., W.Va., (son of Alvinza **WARNER** and Verdilla Jane Morrison) d. 1957 in Lewis Co., W.Va. Margaret died 1950 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - C. Audie **BUSH**, b. 27 Mar 1896 in Gaston, Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - D. Clete **BUSH**, b. 2 Mar 1894 in Gaston, Lewis Co., W.Va., d. 21 Mar 1950 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - E. Guy **BUSH**, b. 4 Apr 1898 in Gaston, Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - F. Lewis Everette **BUSH**, b. 19 Nov 1902 in Gaston, Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - G. Mintie Ora **BUSH**, b. 22 Jul 1891 in Gaston, Lewis Co., W.Va. She married O. C. Fox, married 8-Nov-1943 in Weston, Lewis Co., W.Va., (son of John William Fox and Helen Jane Thrash).
- IV. Cora Alice **CLARK**, b. 31 Aug 1872 in Lewis Co., W.Va. She married Jacob Martin **SMITH**, married 22 Oct 1893 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 4 May 1870 in Lewis Co., W.Va., (son of Ellis Lee **SMITH** Sr. and Matilda Frances **HUDSON**) d. 1956 in Lewis Co., W.Va. Cora died 10-Apr-1957 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
- A. **CLARK SMITH**, b. 27 May 1894 in Stonecoal, Lewis Co., W.Va. He married Reta Virginia **STALNAKER**, married 17 Dec 1916 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 18 Jun 1893 in Horner, Lewis Co., W.Va., (daughter of Charles Burton **STALNAKER** and Agnes Lee **HEFNER**) d. 20 Jul 1945 in Lewis Co., W.Va. **CLARK** died 1984 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - B. Mamie **SMITH**, b. 24 Feb 1896 in Skin Creek, Lewis Co., W.Va. She married Ira Washington **EVERETT**, married 1916, b. 19 Sep

1892 in Homer, Lewis Co., W.Va., (son of Elias Eli Edward **EVERETT** and Mary Jane **WILSON**) d. 1978.

- V. Hughie Commodore **CLARK**, b. 2 May 1882 in Lewis Co., W.Va. He married Settie May **KEELEY**, married 5 Nov 1903 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 1882 in Barbour Co., W.Va. Hughie died 1976 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - A. Nathan Erlo **CLARK**, b. 1906 in Lewis Co., W.Va. He married Reta May **CURTIS**, married 2 Dec 1928 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 1908 in Lewis Co., W.Va., (daughter of Willis Benjamin **CURTIS** and Clara Bell **LINGER**).
  - B. Otie Angus **CLARK**, b. 1905 in Lewis Co., W.Va. He married Reva Jeannette **CAYTON**, married 19 May 1929 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 1908 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
- VI. Emma Myrtle **CLARK**, b. 17 Sep 1884 in Lewis Co., W.Va. She married John **BRANNON ROACH**, married 19 Jun 1910 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 6 Feb 1882 in Lewis Co., W.Va., (son of Edwin B. **ROACH** and Julia E. **BRADSHAW**) d. 1951 in Lewis Co., W.Va. Emma died 1974 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
- VII. Clark A. **CLARK**, b. 31 Aug 1872 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
- VIII. Mary Etta **CLARK**, b. 1 May 1878 in Skin Creek, Lewis Co., W.Va. She married Roscoe Conkling **SMITH**, married 2 Dec 1896 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 14 Jun 1872 in Skin Creek, Lewis Co., W.Va., (son of Ellis Lee **SMITH** Sr. and Matilda Frances **HUDSON**) d. 3 May 1928 in Lewis Co., W.Va. Mary died 2-Jul-1960 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - A. Madge A. **SMITH**, b. 1908 in Lewis Co., W.Va. She married Herbert M. **HENLINE**, married 1927 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 1901 in Lewis Co., W.Va., d. 1977 in Lewis Co., W.Va. Madge died 1937 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - B. Commodore Ray **SMITH**, b. 23 Aug 1902 in Upshur Co., W.Va., d. 1982 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - C. Harvey W. **SMITH**, b. 28 Feb 1904 in Lewis Co., W.Va., d. 3 May 1904 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - D. Virgil N. **SMITH**, b. 16 Mar 1897 in Lewis Co., W.Va., d. 1961.
  - E. Irsile **SMITH**, b. 1912 in Lewis Co., W.Va. She married **HENLINE**, married 1930 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 1909 in Lewis Co., W.Va. married **HANEY**, married 1933 in Lewis Co., W.Va., b. 1912. Lelia died in Bristol, W.Va.
  - G. Lura May **SMITH**, b. 19 Sep 1898 in Stonecoal, Lewis Co., W.Va.
  - H. Milo **SMITH**, b. 1918 in Lewis Co., W.Va.

- I. John P. **SMITH**, b. 1920 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
- J. Gladys **SMITH**, b. 1922 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
- K. Luttie **SMITH**, b. 1924 in Lewis Co., W.Va.
- IX. Infant **CLARK**, b. 24 Sep 1874 in Lewis Co., W.Va., d. 24 Sep 1874 in Lewis Co., W.Va.

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## **STALNAKER Family Record Unique:**

**Ages of Members Total 724 years**

Published in a Weston newspaper in March 1952

Annotated 2010 by Joy Gilchrist-STALNAKER

When Charles B. and Martha E. (**ROACH**) **STALNAKER** celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Sunday, March 6, near Georgetown, they wrote another chapter in a family record that is probably unique in the entire United States. Readers will remember that recently Clarksburg boasted claim to the title for aggregate family longevity in a story about the **RICE** family of that city whose ages including father, mother and nine children, totaled 621 years.

On the day that the **STALNAKERS** celebrated their anniversary the total age of the family including father, mother and ten children, all living was 724 years, four months and six days. Heaped onto this remarkable record for good measure are 30 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

for information about this amazing family we are indebted to Circuit Clerk Ernest **SMITH**, who is happy when confronted by statistics, especially family kind.

He tells us that Charles Bailey **STALNAKER** was the youngest child of Bailey **STALNAKER** and Mary (**PETERSON**) **STALNAKER** who had ten children and 76 grandchildren.

Bailey **STALNAKER**'s mother, Eunice( **BAILEY**) **STALNAKER** was a sister of Minter **BAILEY**, of the old "**BAILEY** house" Mary (**PETERSON**) **STALNAKER**'s grandmother was a sister of William **BENNETT**, father of Jonathan M. **BENNETT**, and she was also a second cousin of the late Dr. M. S. **HOLT**.

Remember the old picture that hung in many a farmhouse entitled "the ties that binds." It depicted a large bow with father and mother at either end

and a "little bundle of joy" representing the knot at the center. The **STALNAKER** family, from away back have believed in putting plenty of knots in that bow. Not only did the parents of Charlie **STALNAKER** have ten children, but four of their children had a total of 54 children, with Charlie's ten running a poor fourth in this family marathon.

Topping the list was his sister, Nancy **LINGER**, wife of Granville **LINGER**, who had 18 children. His brother James was in second place with 14 and his sister Eunice M. **YOKE**, wife of John **YOKE** had 12 children, Charlie's ten made a total of 54.

Martha E. (**ROACH**) **STALNAKER** was a daughter of Doctor **ROACH** and Ann (**FLESHER**) **ROACH**. She tells the story that when Doctor **ROACH** was on his death bed, he had his books of accounts owing to him brought to his bedside. He then ordered them burned in the grate in his sight saying that some parties may have paid him and he failed to give them credit. That all who

were able to pay him had paid and those who had not paid were his friends and were not able to pay and he did not want them distressed after his death.

Today Uncle Charlie **STALNAKER** at the age of 89 runs his farm, located about two miles above Georgetown, and works at it, and his wife takes care of the home without any help. HE says that "If you want smart children, marry a smart Woman."

In the meantime if you want to get into an argument on religion, politics or any other subject just let Charlie know which side you want and the argument is on.

Three of the ten children live outside the county. they are Lewis Hanson, Route One, Homer, a carpenter and farmer; Charles **BENNETT**, Shelby, Montana, oil and gas shooter; Orland Bailey, Homer, driller; Clinton Arch, Route Four, Weston, carpenter and farmer; Frank Roach, Weston, carpenter; James Don, Route One, Homer, carpenter and farmer; Joker Jack, Ireland, driller; French Lloyd, Homer, carpenter; Jesse Peterson , Ashland, O., truck farmer; and the lone girl in the group, Winnie **DAVIS WILLIAMSON**, of Greenwood, W. Va., a beautician. Not long ago there was a song about the benefits of rearing nine sons in a row ..."baseball teams make money, you know," it said.

Uncle Charley says he had nine boys for a baseball team with a girl for the umpire. Truth of the matter was, most of them did play and when any more happened to be needed there was always plenty on tap from James

**STALNAKER's** brood of fourteen. Editor Gilbert **HERSMAN**, who played against the Georgetown **STALNAKER's** back in the days when each community supported a baseball team, said they were all left-handed batters but "Frenchy" which certainly made it easy on the fielders.

Ernest **SMITH** posed this family riddle concerning the **STALNAKER** family which is too deep for us. he said that Charley Bailey **STALNAKER** has one nephew, Rufus Maxwell **LINGER**, of Adrian, Michigan, who is living and who is older than he.

Rufus Maxwell **LINGER** is more than 15 years older than William B. **PETERSON**, retired B&O railroad conductor, now living on Hacker's Creek and a former resident of Weston. William B. **PETERSON** was a first cousin of Rufus Maxwell's grandmother, Mary (**PETERSON**) **STALNAKER**. "You figure that one out," says Ernest.

1. Charles Bailey **STALNAKER**, b. 27 Oct 1860 in Lewis Co, (W)V. He married Martha Elizabeth **ROACH**, married 6 Mar 1887 in Weston, Lewis Co, WV, b. 7 Apr 1866 in Lewis Co, WV, (daughter of Joseph Richard **ROACH** and Ann Olivia **FLESHER**) d. 6 Jun 1954 in Lewis Co, WV, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co, WV. Charles died 12 Apr 1958 in Lewis Co, WV, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co, WV.
  - 1.1. Orlando Bailey **STALNAKER**, b. 25 Apr 1887. He married Delilah E. **MUSS**, b. 1893, d. 1954, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co, WV. Orlando died 25 Oct 1975 in Lewis Co, WV, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co, WV.
  - 1.2. Lewis Hanson **STALNAKER**, b. 22 Jun 1888 in Lewis Co, WV. He married Virgie May **LANE**, married 25-Jul-1916 in Lewis Co, WV, b. 4 Jul 1897 in Upshur Co, WV, d. 19 Apr 1975 in Lewis Co, WV, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co, WV. Lewis died 23 Jan 1969 in Lewis Co, WV, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co, WV.
    - 1.2.1. Clara Elizabeth **STALNAKER**, b. 30 Dec 1916. She married Audra Wood **REGER**.
    - 1.2.2. Doris Mardell **STALNAKER**, b. 4 May 1919. She married John R. P. **SMITH**.
    - 1.2.3. Ralph Hanson **STALNAKER**, b. 4 May 1922. He married Julia **GUY**. Ralph died 28 Mar 1991 in Lewis Co, WV, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co, WV.

- 1.2.4. Kenneth Lane **STALNAKER**, b. 15 Sep 1924 in Lewis Co, WV. He married Haroldine Mae Greene, married 29-Jul-1949 in Lewis Co, WV, b. 5 Mar 1928.
- 1.2.5. Nell **ROACH STALNAKER**, b. 28 Nov 1930. She married John M. **THARP**.
- 1.2.6. Gary Bailey **STALNAKER**, b. 30 Nov 1933. He married Betty Lou **CUSSINS**.
- 1.2.7. Joseph Zane **STALNAKER**, b. 21 Sep 1936. He married (1) Gloria Jean **BASS**, (daughter of Charles E. **FRAME** and Lois Agnes Martin **BASS**). He married (2) Linda **LEACH BAKER**
- 1.2.8. Nelson David **STALNAKER**, b. 2 Feb 1941. He married Karen Mae **NOLAND**.
- 1.3. Arch Clinton **STALNAKER**, b. 26 Aug 1889 in Lewis Co, WV. He married Beulah Madge **SIMS**, married 21 Mar 1915 in Lewis Co, WV, b. 24 Dec 1896 in Lewis Co, WV, (daughter of Alonzo Vanburton **SIMS** and Gertrude Arminta **CHITTUM**) d. 6 Nov 1985 in Lewis Co, WV, buried: in Masonic Cem, Weston, Lewis Co, WV. Arch died 29 Dec 1967 in Lewis Co, WV, buried: in Masonic Cem, Weston, Lewis Co, WV.
- 1.3.1. Georgia Dale **STALNAKER**, b. 21 Jan 1916 in Lewis Co, WV. She married Edward Calvin **COTTRILL**, married 19 Dec 1941 in Akron, Summit Co, OH, b. 8 Jun 1915, (son of Dorsey **COTTRILL** and Muriel \_\_\_\_\_) d. 30 Apr 1971 in Clarksburg, Harrison Co, WV, buried: in Masonic Cem, Weston, Lewis Co, WV. Georgia died 16 Nov 1996 in Clarksburg, Harrison Co, WV, buried: in Masonic Cem, Weston, Lewis Co, WV.
- 1.3.2. Daril Warren **STALNAKER**, b. 6 Jan 1919 in **WARNER** Hollow, Lewis Co, WV. He married (1) Josephine Pearl **PERKEY**, married 31 Aug 1941 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny Co, PA, b. 17 Jul 1920 in Weston, Lewis Co, WV, (daughter of Noah Bryan **PERKEY** and Wilma Pearl **CLARK**) d. 12 Dec 1997 in Georgetown, Lewis Co, WV, buried: in Masonic Cem, Weston, Lewis Co, WV. He married (2) Joy Lea **GREGOIRE**, married 3 Oct 1998 in Weston, Lewis Co, WV, b. 27-Apr-1941 in Clarksburg, Harrison Co, WV, (daughter of Resta Sullivan **GRÉGOIRE** and Denna Vivian **WINEMILLER**). Daril died 19-Jun-2009 in Weston, Lewis Co, WV, buried: in Masonic Cem, Weston, Lewis Co, WV.



- 1.4. Charles Bennett **STALNAKER**, b. 26 Aug 1891. He married (1) Sue Mae **SMITH** and (2) Elsa \_\_\_\_\_. Charles died 28 Jul 1979.
  - 1.4.1. Dorothy **STALNAKER**. She married Frank **BURKHAMMER**.
  - 1.4.2 Myrna **STALNAKER**, b. 26 Jul 1937. She married \_\_\_\_\_ DeMilt.
  - 1.4.3 Charles Bennett **STALNAKER**, Jr., b. 30 Mar 1939
- 1.5. Frank Roach **STALNAKER**, b. 22 May 1892. He married Sallie **COCKRAN**, b. 1896, d. 1962, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co,WV. Frank died 1967, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co,WV.
  - 1.5.1. Anna Mavis **STALNAKER**, b. 1923, d. 1948 in Lewis Co, WV, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co,WV.
- 1.6. French Lloyd **STALNAKER**, b. 21 May 1894 in Lewis Co, WV. He married Anna Laura Flaherty, (daughter of Michael Flaherty and \_\_\_\_\_). French died 1967. No issue.
- 1.7. Winnie Davis **STALNAKER**, b. 4 Jun 1895. She married Harry E. **FRAME**. Winnie died 12 Aug 1979.
  - 1.7.1. Charles E. **FRAME**, b. 23 Sep 1919 in Gassaway, Braxton Co, WV. He married Lois Agnes Martin **BASS**, d. 14 Dec 1979, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co,WV. Charles died 28 Jul 2001 in Warrenton, GA, buried: in Mt. Gilead Ch.Cem, Geo'town, Lewis Co,WV.
  - 1.7.2. James **FRAME**.
  - 1.7.3. Estelene **FRAME**. She married 1) \_\_\_\_\_ **BURTON** and 2) **OSBORNE?**.
- 1.8. Jesse Peterson **STALNAKER**, b. 27 Feb 1897 in Lewis Co, WV. He married Vera Gerwig. He died 7 Oct 1987 in Ashland, OH.
  - 1.7.1. Vera **STALNAKER**
  - 1.7.2. Caroline **STALNAKER**
- 1.9. Joker J. **STALNAKER**, b. 15 Aug 1898 in Lewis Co, WV. He married Marguerite Jean **BENNETT** in 1926, Lewis Co, WV. Joker died 24 Jan 1980 at UHC Hospital, Clarksburg, WV.
  - 1.9.1 Ty **STALNAKER**, m. Hope \_\_\_\_\_.
- 1.10. James Donald **STALNAKER**, b. 8 Feb 1903 in Lewis Co, WV. He married Marguerite **QUEEN** in 1924, Lewis Co, WV. He died 6 May 1991 in Horner, Lewis Co, WV.
  - 1.10.1. Clifford **STALNAKER**
  - 1.10.2. Rosalie **STALNAKER**



When Charles Bailey and Martha (Roach) Stalnaker celebrated their 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary, their children gathered round them. The anniversary couple are seated in the front row. The women of the family are in the second row. Left to right they are: Marguerite, Don's wife; Margaret, Jess' wife; Lula, Joker's wife; Laura, French's wife; Sally, Frank's wife; Winnie Frame, the couple's only daughter; Beulah, Arch's wife; Virginia, Lewis' wife; Delilah, Orland's wife. In the third row, left to right, are: Don, Joker, Jess, French, Frank, Charles B. "Bee", Arch, Lewis and Orland.

# Queries ??????????

1. Question 1: Information on children that show adopted on census records specifically on the 1880 West Virginia census. I have someone that shows adopted on the 1880 census and was wondering where to go with it now. Any ideas? Christian **SMITH** of Gilmer Co WV and Sarah A. **SMITH** had several children on the 1880 census and Icy Mertel **SMITH** was one of them, the others were William **MESSENGER** age 25 and Benjamin age 21 these young men were step-children of the head of household, Christian; the census shows Icy was adopted by head of household, Christian **SMITH**. Several questions come to mind like: 1. Was Icy a child of Sarah's and previous husband **MESSENGER**. Then for whatever reason Sarah was widowed or divorced and Christian adopted Icy? 2. Was she adopted by both Sarah and Christian due to the child being an orphan. or number 3. Was the child given away by her parents or parent as many children were in those days to Sarah and Christian. I am not sure where to go with this information. Or I am not seeing something in all this.

This is one of my brick walls. This child, Icy Mertel could possibly be my great grandmother. If anyone has knowledge of the adopted on census records, I would appreciate learning more about this.

Question 2: There is another Sarah A. **SMITH** that was an informant on a birth record in Gilmer County in 1904. She was a midwife. The irony here is she was informant at the birth of a child. That child's parents were Icy **FITZPATRICK** and her husband William **FITZPATRICK**. What is the likelihood that Sarah was the mother of this Icy? Anyone have information on this Sarah A. **SMITH**?

Thanks for any ideas on this. Carol **YAKUPCAK** 11599  
Hoover Ave Uniontown OH 44685 [Teacross@aol.com](mailto:Teacross@aol.com)

2. I'm still trying to get all of my families **RADCLIFF** and **WINE** straightened out and there are so many disconnected names that I have not placed with families.

I have done DNA testing on two of my uncles, one **RADCLIFF** in Weston and one **WINE** whose roots were in Braxton County. I am trying to get others to join in and contribute either information or DNA for further conclusive results in our origins.

I have information that puts my **RADCLIFF** in Hardy Co, Va in the early 1820's but there are also **RADCLIFF**'s found in Roane Co and other counties in the area. I am trying to figure out the connection to all of them, as well as the **WINE** families.

I have George **WINE** marrying **REBECCA WILLIAMS** in Greenbrier Co, Va and they are found later on in Braxton County census information with family.

Again, I would love to be able to share information to get these families links found and would appreciate help from anyone else out there that has these families in their databases or are related.

Joannie Erickson, <erickson@mosquiconet.com> 2637 Shady Lane,  
North Pole, Alaska 99705

3. Looking for information on Mary **RIFFLE MURPHY** and where her husband and son Solomon **MURPHY** was on the 1850 Census of Mason Co.WV. She was The daughter of Solomon and Rebecca **WILSON-RIFFLE**, and was with them on the 1850 Mason Co. WV, She was listed as Mary **MURPHY** 22, by 1854, Solomon, Rebecca, and George **RIFFLE** was living in Henry Co. IA, by 1856 Solomon had died and Rebecca and George lived in Henry Co., IA. Mary Married Charles **PARSONS** after his wife Olyanna "Orleanna" **HINZMAN** died, Charles and Orleanna was on the 1850 Jackson Co. WV Census, by 1854 he was in Lee Co., IA, and 1860 shows him and Mary in the Vanburen, Lee Co. IA census. He is listed with Mary aged 31 and children Emaline 22, Samuel 17, George 15, Jonathan 12 and Solomon 12, the last child Solomon is Solomon **MURPHY** from Mary's 1st marriage., The rest of the children were from Charles's first wife. As a child I believe Solomon suffered from Epilepsy, does anyone know where a child would be placed at for this in 1850 Mason Co. WV. there is some reason he is not found in the 1850 census with his mother.

Would especially like to find the marriage between Mary RIFFLE and a MURPHY, or when Charles Wife Olyann died . any help is appreciated. thank you. Jane **BOUCHER** [valjan@ptd.net](mailto:valjan@ptd.net) , 406 Schoolhouse Rd. East Stroudsburg, PA. 18302.

4. John E. **WINE** (S) said to be born in 1803 married Sarah or Sallie **STEWART** on 21 Oct 1824 in Parkersburg, Wood Co., WV with the Rev. Lawrence **KING** performing the ceremony. The mother of John is thought to be Susan possibly **SMITH** as she died on the Smith Farm in Reedy, Roane Co., WV. ca 1842.  
Sally was the d/o Charles and Virginia/Jane **STEWART** - b.ca 1806 and d. 1838 in Reedy, Roane Co., WV. Charles is said to be the s/o William **STEWART** and an Elizabeth **GIVENS**.

Does anyone work on this family or have knowledge of them?

Lucy B. **ARGABRITE** was b. in May 1872 in Spencer, Roane Co., WV. She was the d/o William "Floyd" **ARGABRITE** and Elizabeth **WINE**(S). She would be my grandmothers oldest sister and she married John R. **DAVIS** 2 Apr 1891 possibly in Spencer. Do not know the parents of John R. **DAVIS** b. Apr 1860 in Geary, Roane Co., WV. I found her last in the 1900 Federal Census and she was gone in the 1910 as John was remarried to a Mattie ? his wife of 2 years. John taught school in Big Sandy Dist. Clendenin, Kanawha Co., WV.

John and Lucy had the following children - names not normal in the **ARGABRITE** family but must be in **DAVIS** family - Mabell G. b. Feb 1893; Walter G. b. May 1895, m. Clara and they lived in Jefferson Co., OH; and Glenn E. b. Aug 1899.

I have not been able to find where Lucy was buried or the actual date. Help!

John d. in 1929 in the Big Sandy Dist. area.

First time I had found Lucy was on a trip to Salt Lake and I actually grieved for a woman that I never met. My grandmother, Martha **ARGABRITE** (Isaac **BUTCHER**) died when my father was only 5 years old. Strange feelings.

I hope that someone might know of the Davis family or about my Lucy. Appreciate knowing anything more about them. Bette Butcher Topp  
1304 W. Cliffwood Court, Spokane, WA 99218 [toppline@comcast.net](mailto:toppline@comcast.net)

5. Looking for the parents of Samuel **SHAW**, b. abt 1796 in PA, d. 1841 in Marion Co., (West) VA, m. 1816, and his wife, Mary **GREEN**, b. 1795 in PA, d. 1871 in Marion Co, WV. Their children were: Sarah (1817-1849), Mary Elizabeth (1818-1905), John (1825-1907), William (1827-?), Joshua (1829-1910), Margaret (abt 1831-1918), Thomas (1832-1918), George (1834-?), Rachel (1836-?), and Edith(?) (abt 1840-?). Bob **DESSENT**, [rwdessent@yahoo.com](mailto:rwdessent@yahoo.com), 438 Spring Grove Dr, Tallmadge, OH 44278
6. Samuel **MILLER** m. Rebecca **CARPENTER**, probably in Braxton Co., WV ca 1811. Were Sam's parents Samuel and Nancy **JONES**. Who were his siblings? Rebecca was the d/o Jeremiah **CARPENTER** and Elizabeth **MANN**. Samuel was in the War of 1812. Samuel and Rebecca moved to Spencer, Roane Co. Doesn't anyone know about this family?

Charles **FISHER**, the s/o of George **FISHER** and Elizabeth **CONRAD**, was b. 25 Aug 1770 in Pendleton Co. WV. Charles m. Eunice **STRATTON** before 1789 and they lived in Pendleton and also Lewis Co., WV. Eunice was b. 11 Nov 1771 in Pendleton CO. and she d. 17 Aug 1862. Charles died about Jul 1829 in Lewis Co.

I believe that Charles and his parents are buried in the **FISHER** cemetery near Braxton Co.  
Eunice was the d/o Seriah **STRATTON** and Catherine ? - Does anyone know Catherine's maiden name?

I believe that Charles and his parents are buried in the **FISHER** cemetery near Braxton Co.  
Eunice was the d/o Seriah **STRATTON** and Catherine ? - Does anyone know her maiden name?  
Seriah and Catherine had land in Upper Tract area of Pendleton Co.

The name of "Eunice" has come down through the generations from the **CASE** and **STRATTON** family.

Bette Butcher **TOPP**  
1304 W. Cliffwood Court, Spokane, WA 99218  
[toppline@comcast.net](mailto:toppline@comcast.net) [509] 467-2299

7. Patrick **MCCAN** (born 1767, died 1853) married Hannah **JOHNSON** on July 26, 1787 in Harrison County, West Virginia. From 1792 to 1798 (and again in 1813) according to the Harrison County Minute Books, Patrick was permitted to keep an "ordinary" at his home on West Fork. Lewis **WETZEL**, the Indian fighter, was supposed to have visited Patrick at his Inn on West Fork. Looking for any information on this ordinary and/or any others in the area. Property was also owned by Patrick's parents, Laurence and Mary **McCAN**. Upon his death, Patrick **McCAN** was supposed to have been buried "on Little Kanawha". Trying to locate his grave. Kathy McCann **KEYSER**, [kmkeyser@roadrunner.com](mailto:kmkeyser@roadrunner.com) or 2863 Woodhaven Drive, Ashland, KY 41102.
8. I am looking for help with a Richard **BELL** SR, probably born in England, who moved from Fayette Co, Pennsylvania to Harrison Co, West Virginia about 1805 (he appears on Fayette Co PA 1800 census). He bought property from Holdridge **CHIDESTER** in 1814. He died in 1849. His will was written in March 1849. He died and the will was probated on 8/9/1849. He left his wife Nancy (unknown maiden name) and several children namely Richard Jr., Isaac, Hannah (**PAUGH**), Martha "Patsy" (**DEARMAN**, later **CHIDESTER**), Rebecca **NABORS/NEIGHBORS**, Delilah (**GREGORY**), Aaron, and three deceased sons, John, Thoams and James. Anyone with information on sons Aaron **BELL**, John **BELL**, Thomas **BELL** or James **BELL** that they are willing to share or anyone interested in the family, please contact me through HCPD or at [larryh196@comcast.net](mailto:larryh196@comcast.net).
9. Seeking info on, or contact with, descendants of the following people who I believe descend from an all-female line from Anne \_\_\_\_\_ and Thomas **BARTLETT** c1730-1806. I'm trying to determine the mtDNA of Anne, so that we may someday find her maiden name and parents.  
 Rilla Lois **BARINBRIDGE CLELLAND** b 1897; d 1977 Marion Co, WV; m 1829 Harrison Co, VA; Charity Webb **BROHARD HARRIS** b 1845 Harrison Co, VA; lived in Franklin Co, OH; Mary Almeda **BROHARD LEACH** b 1853 Wood Co, VA; d 1931 Jackson Co, OH; Ida Charlotte **BROHARD REED**; lived Jackson Co, OH ; Emeline Matilda **BAILEY LAWSON** d 1898 Lewis Co, WV ;Olive **BAILEY** (m 1838 Isaac **YATES**); Narcissa **BAILEY BRAKE** m 1857 Taylor Co, VA ; Eleanor **BAILEY BLACK** was in 1880 Gilmer Co, WV Census; Mary Ann

**DRAGOO** (m 1837 IN Lunsford J **THORN**); Tabitha Luella **LINN HAYHURST** d 1956 Fairview, Monongalia Co, WV; Martha Ann **LINN FERRELL** d 1942 Marion Co, WV; Ethalinda Jan **LINN** (m 1900 Marion Co, WV Alonzo **PHILLIP**. ) Jim **BARTLETT** 7224 Beacon Ter, Bethesda, MD 20817 [jim4bartletts@verizon.net](mailto:jim4bartletts@verizon.net)

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Barbara Shaver  
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The late Dot Sipe  
Louise Slaton  
The late Chester Steyer  
The late Hartzel Strader  
Joy Strader Mealey  
Boyd L. "Rocky" Swisher  
Raydine Teicheira and the late  
    Joe Teicheira  
The late Mrs. Byron J. Turner  
Hilda Warner & the late Darrell Warner  
Glea Waugh  
Raymond & the late Bonnie Ware  
The late Christine White  
William I. & Rebecca White  
Cary L. & Donna Williams  
The late Lee & Eleanor  
    Allman Wiseman  
Ella Virginia Wills  
Raymond Wolfe, Jr.  
Leonard Woodruff

\*New Life Member

# HACKER'S CREEK

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 The late John O'leary, Jr.  
 Barbara Palmer  
 Joan Peters  
 The late Doris Poinsett  
 The late Ruth McCray Post  
 Carol Powell  
 Clarence I. & Lois Bartlett Price  
 Ardell Ratliff  
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 Joe & Erseline Rumbach  
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